

REMARKS

Claims 6-20 are presently pending and stand rejected. Claims 1-5 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 21 and 22 are added.

With regards to claim 6, Examiner has indicated that "Hobbs describes a method of communication video signals over a communications link comprising shortening a blanking period in the data to accommodate auxiliary data (fig. 2-5, col. 3, lines 14-20, shortening the horizontal sync pulse during the horizontal blanking period to accommodate audio (auxiliary data))." Office Action 12/8/06 at 2. Assignee noted that Hobbs taught "Under the [Alternate Field Drop] AFD compression approach, described above, every four frames are reduced to a single frame. This single frame now has available to it the time previously allocated to all four frames. The horizontal synch pulse, plus breezeway, can now be stretched to occupy four times their original time durations. Figure 2 illustrates this stretching and shows interval T in Fig. 1, but stretched to a length 4T. ... However, the original Horizontal Synch pulse of Fig. 1 need not be stretched to four times its original width, and need not occupy the entire width W shown in Fig. 2. The invention shortens W to W1, shown in Fig. 3." Hobbs, Col. 3, Lines 3-15 in the response to office action of 3/7/2007. Examiner has maintained the rejection.

In interests of clarity, Assignee has now amended claim 6 to recite, "shortening a blanking period in the data to accommodate auxiliary data, said blanking period preceding one uncompressed frame". As noted above, Hobbs teaches that "Under the AFD compression approach, described above, every four frames are reduced to a single frame." Accordingly, Hobbs does not teach the limitations of claim 6, as now amended. Accordingly, Examiner is requested to withdraw the rejection to claim 6.

Assignee has added claim 21 which recites, among other limitations, "wherein the one uncompressed frame is allocated the time for one frame". Assignee respectfully submits that that Hobbs does not teach the foregoing because Hobbs teaches that "This single frame now has available to it the time

previously allocated to all four frames." Accordingly, Assignee respectfully submits that claim 21 is allowable.

For at least the above reasons, claims 20 and 22 are also allowable.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, each of the pending claims are allowable, thereby placing the application in a condition for allowance. Examiner is requested to pass this case to issuance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the amount enclosed or any additional fees which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-0017 in the name of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



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